



HR0580

LRB097 14250 KXB 59054 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Dr.
4 Sheldon I. Miller of Skokie, a founder of and early leader in
5 the field of addiction psychiatry, who passed away on October
6 2, 2011; and

7 WHEREAS, He was born on June 29, 1938, to Edward A. and
8 Evelyn (née Kleinman) Miller in Cleveland, Ohio; he graduated
9 from Oberlin College in 1960 and Tufts Medical School in 1964,
10 and completed his residency in psychiatry at the University
11 Hospitals in Cleveland; and

12 WHEREAS, He spent 2 years with the Public Health Service on
13 the Navajo Indian Reservation, addressing the psychiatric
14 needs of that population; during that time, he became concerned
15 with the Navajos' struggles with alcoholism and depression;
16 this interest defined the future course of his research; he
17 continued to focus on this subject, conducting some of the
18 first studies leading to the definition of fetal alcohol
19 syndrome and of alcoholism as a disease; and

20 WHEREAS, Dr. Miller was Professor Emeritus and former chair
21 (1991-2002) of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral
22 Sciences at Northwestern University; he was also the author of

1 more than 100 publications, including major textbooks on
2 addiction; Dr. Miller was a founding member of the American
3 Academy of Addiction Psychiatry, a member of the Group for the
4 Advancement of Psychiatry, and a Distinguished Fellow of the
5 American Psychiatric Association; and

6 WHEREAS, He was instrumental in achieving the recognition
7 of the subspecialty of addiction psychiatry by the American
8 Board of Psychiatry and Neurology; Dr. Miller was deeply
9 involved in psychiatric education throughout his career; from
10 1996 to 1999, he served as the chair of the ACGME Psychiatry
11 Residency Review Committee, which establishes policy and
12 curricula for residency training programs across the United
13 States; he was also a committed advocate for the mentally ill,
14 tirelessly advocating on their behalf at both the state and
15 national legislative levels; and

16 WHEREAS, Dr. Miller was a masterful teacher, generously
17 giving of his time to educate people about the field of
18 psychiatry and addiction and to advocate for better mental
19 health policy and more humane treatment of mental health care
20 patients; this education and advocacy frequently resulted in
21 better policy outcomes in the State of Illinois and helped many
22 lead more productive and healthier lives; and

23 WHEREAS, Dr. Sheldon Miller is survived by his wife of 50

1 years, Sarah Miller (née Johnston); his daughter, Lynne; his
2 son-in-law, Mark Jones; his grandchildren, Lily, Ian, and Nell;
3 and his son, David W. Miller and his partner, Lee Griesbach;
4 therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
6 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
7 we mourn, along with his family and friends, the passing of Dr.
8 Sheldon Miller; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
10 presented to the family of Dr. Sheldon Miller as a symbol of
11 our sincere sympathy.